



Patent
Attorney Docket No. 4384

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Brian E. Dalton)
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Serial No.: 10/615,196)
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Filed: July 7, 2003)
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For: SPINAL STABILIZATION IMPLANT)
AND METHOD OF APPLICATION)

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases, this Information Disclosure Statement provides citations relating to the captioned application. Applicant hereby requests the Examiner to review and make an independent evaluation of each listed citation.

There are 4 United States references, including 2 patents (US Patent 6,645,207, Dixon et al. 606/61 and US Patent 6,530,929, Justis et al. 606/103), and 2 US patent publications (2002/0161368, Foley et al., 606/61, and 2003/0060826, Foley et al. 606/61), which are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form and copies of all citations listed are enclosed.

In addition to the accompanying citations, Applicant, and/or the undersigned attorney may have seen or considered other information relating to the subject invention; however, it is their best present recollection and judgement that they have not seen or considered any such other information which is material to the examination and/or patentability of the captioned application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed solely for the purpose of compliance with the above-identified rules and is not intended to be a substitute for either an independent evaluation of the cited information by the Examiner or an independent search by the Examiner and no representation of any nature is made or intended by this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROTHERS AND CAROTHERS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Floyd B. Carothers", written in a cursive style.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/615,196		
		Filing Date	July 7, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Dalton, Brian E.		
		Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	4384

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-6,645,207	11/11/03	Dixon et al.	
		US-6,530,929	03/11/03	Justis et al.	
		US-2002/0161368	10/31/02	Foley et al.	
		US-2003/0060826	03/27/03	Foley et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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